

Cincinnati Numismatic  
Association May 12, 2017

Tokens/Medalets of The  
Sentimental Magazine ...

Bruce Smith



*The Genius of the Sentimental Magazine holding a Medal of the Marquis of Granby, inviting Nature to strike the type for his Assistance, whilst Justice presides over the Work.*

Published in London 1773 - 1777, Tokens issued 1773 - 1774

Publisher: G. Kearsley      Editor: Thomas Hollis

First sold for six-pence a copy

"General Assemblage of Science, Taste, and Entertainment. Circulated to amuse the Mind, to improve understanding, and to Amend the Heart."

Tokens were given as an inducement to purchase the magazine.

Engraved by John Kirk - engraved medals, produced coin weights, sold “Dutch and English toys, pans, and gold”

Copper pieces (26 mm dia.), wrapped in silky paper, accompanied the first 13 issues of the magazine.

Silver examples were to be given as prizes for submitted translations, prose, poetry etc. The reverse of these to be engraved with the winner's name. None are known.

Silver and gold tokens were available upon inquiry.

# George III March 1773

We know this guy. Ruled from 1760 - 1820. Recently bumped to 3rd on the all time list.





# Queen Charlotte April 1773

Wife of George III. A logical choice for the #2 slot.



## Duke of Gloucester (Gloucester) May 1773

Brother of George III. Keeping it in the family. He wanted to fight in the American Revolution, but brother George wouldn't let him.



## David Garrick June 1773

Garrick was a renowned actor, manager, playwright, and producer.





## William Beckford July 1773

Twice Lord Mayor of London, Beckford championed liberty while his wealth came from enslaved workers on his Jamaican plantations.





## George II August 1773

George II, grandfather of George III, was the last British Monarch born outside Britain (Germany) and the last to lead an army into battle.



## John Wilkes September 1773

Wilkes was an on again off again Member of Parliament (his enemies had him expelled). He fought for individual liberties, and his selection by the magazine indicates its editorial support. Yes, John Wilkes Booth is a distant relative.



## Oliver Cromwell October 1773

“Lord Protector of the Commonwealth” following Charles I’s beheading, Cromwell’s inclusion is out of the time frame here. The editor of the magazine was a descendant of Thomas Hollis, a man with strong ties to Cromwell.





# Lord Chatham November 1773

“The Great Commoner,” Lord Chatham, is perhaps better known in the United States as William Pitt. *If I were an American, as I am an Englishman, while a foreign troop was landed in my country, I never would lay down my*

*arms — never, never, never.*





## Lord Camden December 1773

Born Charles Pratt, as Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, his ruling freed Wilkes, and he was seen as a protector of civil liberties.



# Duchess of Cumberland

George III's sister-in-law. George didn't like her. The couple was banned from Royal Court.



## Duchess of Glocester (Gloucester)

Illegitimate and a commoner, she married another of George III's brothers. George not happy.





# Marquis of Granby

A hero of the Seven Years War (Europe's version of the French and Indian War), he supposedly has more pubs named after him than any other individual.





## Also....

The first editor was a Republican, that is liberal, supporting the colonists in the Revolution. The choice of honorees may to some measure have been guided by this stance.

Between the size of a farthing and half penny, wear indicates they may have circulated.

The tokens can be found on eBay and through various other internet dealers. They are generally inexpensive. Some of the women seem to be the most difficult to locate.

The Lord Chatham (William Pitt) token is also Betts 522. It sometimes appears at auction with a higher valuation than the others.

1775 issues of the magazine are available online in Google Books.

Research continues as much is still uncertain. Were prizes ever awarded? Did a change in editor result in the end of the medals?

A simple set of 13 pieces, but... die varieties and die states exist!

# Questions?

